

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, June 8, 2004, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck
Utility Division

(212) In the matter of MDU Resources Group, Inc. - Docket No. D2004.5.78: On May 24, 2004, MDU applied for authority to issue 6,825,581 additional shares of Common Stock in connection with the MDU Resources Group Inc. 1997 Executive Long-Term Incentive Program. The purpose of the Plan is to promote the success and enhance the value of the Company by linking the personal interests of officers and key employees to those of the Company's stockholders and customers. The requested authority is to be effective until all of the shares have been issued. A default order has been drafted.

Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the authority with language clarifying nothing in the Order determines the ratemaking treatment which will apply to Common Stock issued pursuant to the application. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Brainard dissented.

APPEARANCE

Kim Moran
Utility Division

(213) In the matter of Qwest Services Corporation - Docket No. N2004.5.79: On May 25, 2004 Qwest filed for Commission approval a Master Service Agreement (MSA) between Qwest and Costco Wholesale. This filing was submitted pursuant to Section 2.18 – Volume and Term Discounts of Qwest tariffs.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the filing in Docket No. N2004.5.79. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby
Utility Division

(214) In the matter of Qwest Communications - Docket No. N2004.3.34: On March 5, 2004, Qwest Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 04-04, Business Line Volume Purchasing Plan (BLVPP). The plan allows discounts on Basic flat-rated lines (1FBs); Qwest Business Line Plus, Qwest Choice Business, Business Custom Choice, and Centrex 21 Service. The customer may subscribe to any combination of these basic exchange services to qualify for the discount. In addition, at the customer's request, hunting will be included in the plan at no additional charge.

Commissioner Stovall moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 04-04. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(215) In the matter of AT&T Communications - Docket No. N2004.5.76: On May 21, 2004, AT&T filed Tariff Transmittal 2004-07. The purpose of this filing is to grandfather the AT&T Correctional Value Plan. AT&T requests that this filing go into effect on June 20, 2004.

Commissioner Schneider moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 2004-07. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(216) In the matter of TN2222: Thomas P. McGree, Butte, Montana requests permission to continue the lease of PSC No. 2530 to Tucker Transportation, Inc., Butte, Montana, for a one year period, June 14, 2004 to June 14, 2005.

Commissioner Brainard moved to approve PSC Lease No. 2530. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(217) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of May 31, 2004. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Lee
Utility Division

(218) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Qwest Request for a New Block of Numbers for Benefis in Great Falls - Docket No. D2004.4.58:

Commissioner Schneider moved to approve Qwest's request through a Notice of Commission Action, and to send a letter to the Neustar administrator instructing them to make the 1,000 block of numbers available for Benefis in Great Falls. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

Legal Division

(219) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Columbia Heights Water Co. Service Quality and Related Complaints:

Commissioner Schneider moved to authorize staff to pursue a meeting with Columbia Heights Water Co. and to invite Montana Consumer Counsel participation to develop a plan concerning tariff improvements and company policy in terms of providing adequate water quality. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt

Martin Jacobson

(220) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Household Goods Carriers Fuel Cost Adjustment:

Commissioner Stovall moved to instruct the Montana Motor Carrier Association to refile a fuel cost adjustment tariff that would respond to staff's concerns about the initial fuel cost and require that they notify carriers and the Commission whenever there is a change in the fuel costs. Upon receipt the tariff would be noticed for comments within 20 days. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Friday, June 11, 2004 the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman (via telephone)
Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner

Commissioner Brainard was absent and did not leave his votes. Commissioner Stovall was absent but left his votes with Commissioner Rowe.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Eric Eck, Kate Whitney

(221) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the Application for Approval of NorthWestern Energy/Basin Creek Power Purchase Agreement - Docket No. D2004.3.45:

Commissioner Schneider moved to deny PPL's request to submit additional data requests to NWE. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to deny the motion of PPL to compel further discovery responses from NWE. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed 3-1. Commissioner Rowe dissented.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:
Connie Jones
Commission Secretary
(SEAL)